

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

SKETCHES
OF
LEGISLATORS
AND
STATE OFFICERS

1876-1878.

BY JOHN CARDWELL.

AUSTIN, TEXAS:
DEMOCRATIC STATESMAN OFFICE PRINT.
1876.

THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT.

County.—Harris.

REPRESENTATIVE D. U. BARZIZA is a native of Virginia, from which State he moved to Texas in 1858. He graduated with the degree of A. M. in 1857 at William and Mary College, in Williamsburg, Virginia, and took his degree in law at Baylor University, Texas, under Judges Wheeler and Baylor, and John Sayles, in 1859. He was once known in newspaperdom as "Ultimus," the regular correspondent of the *Galveston News* for several years and during the war. He is descended on the father's side from a noble Italian family, being the grandson of Count Antonio Barziza, of Venice. His singular given name, Decimus Ultimus, is possessed of much significance, being so named as the "tenth and last" of a family of children. He joined the Confederate States Army at the breaking out

of the war, and was a brave captain in the Fourth Texas Regiment (Hood's Brigade); while in the service was wounded twice, once at the second battle of Manassas and again at Gettysburg; was a representative in the Fourteenth Legislature for Harris and Montgomery counties, and was chairman of the Committee on Public Lands and Land Office, and also of that on Commerce and Manufactures. He it was who, in the Davis-Coke war, one which promised to empurple the halls of the Capitol with human gore, succeeded in obtaining the election returns for officers of the State government and members of the Fourteenth Legislature from Davis's Secretary of State. He it was, too, who on Friday, February 12, 1875, shook the equilibrium of the House of Representatives and of the whole community in an unexpected but deliberate and fiery speech against the bond compromise bill in favor of the International Railway Company. He is an Ajax in debate, a fine speaker, and an accomplished parliamentarian. He was the nominee of the Democrats of his district for a seat in the lower house of the Fifteenth Legislature, to which he was elected by over 800 majority.